



#4/a 3629
Lowman
12-18-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Brad D. Guthrie

Examiner:

Bryon P. Gehman

Serial Number: 09/544,321

Group Art Unit:

3629

Filed: 04/06/2000

For: METHOD FOR QUALIFYING DIE MATERIAL AND TESTING DIES

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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DEC 16 2002
GROUP 3600

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

The Applicant's undersigned Attorney thanks the Examiner for a kind and thorough review of the Application. Applicant's undersigned Attorney responds to the Office Action mailed on 9/10/02 (hereinafter referred to as the "Office Action") in the following manner:

In The Abstract of the Disclosure:

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows.

Abstract (amended "clean-version")

A1
A method (10) for acquiring material for use within a die and for determining whether a die has certain characteristics which would allow the die to have a relatively long operating